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Williamston, Martin County, North Carolina, Tuesday, February 23, 1954

ESTABLISHED 1899

Augustus Hodges Siabbed To Death By Jas. Hawkins

Prominent Figures Address Annual Farm Press Group In Raleigh

Augustus Hodges, about thirty years of age, was stabbed to death in the home of Rosaline Stokes here on Martin Street shortly before 3:00 o'clock last Saturday afternoon. His attacker, James Hawkins, 29, was arrested a few minutes later by Chief John Roebuck and Officer Chas. R. Moore at his home on Hunter Street, about nine blocks from the secent of the attack

The attack is believed to have climaxed a drunken brawl, Of ficer Moore stating that both men had been drinking illicit liquor. that Hawkins staggered badly in his dash from the Stokes home to his own on Hunter Street.

Using a pocket knife which was not immediately recovered, Hawkins was said to have driven the blade into the victim's back just below the shoulder blades and then stabbed him in the chest near the heart. Hawkins left immediately, and friends started to move the victim to a car for transfer to a hospital. The man died in the street in front of the Stokes home, officers said.

No motive for the attack was immediately advanced, officers stating that Hawkins was almost too drunk to talk following his arrest. It was learned, however, that the two men had argued the night before, but the nature of the argument was not revealed.

At the time of the attack, Hodges was sitting at a table in the Stokes home eating. A place was set for Howkins when he entered and was invited to partake of the meal. He refused and a short time later attacked Hodges, apparently without warning.

Hodges, a single man who had been spending much time in the Stokes home, according to officers, was a member of a respected help of Almighty God; and family. His father, James Hodges, ginia and came here to make ar-been declared a world-wide day rangements for the funeral.

d a local burial society only that morning.

Hawkins, a native of Halifax County, came to this section when a small child and had been employed in industry here for a number of years. He is a married man and father of four small

The funeral for Hodges is being held this afternoon. No hearing has been scheduled for Hawkins, but it likely will be held within a short time, police said.

Father Of Local **Resident Passes**

John F. Clayton, father of Mrs. Frank Weston of Williamston, died in a nursing home in Beaufort County Sunday afternoon at 1:45 o'clock. Mr Clayton had been in declining health for a long time, and was a patient in a hospital here at one time.

The son of the late William and Elizabeth Purser Clayton, he was born in Aurora 77 years ago and spent most of ms me gaging in dairy farming. He was member of the Aurora Methodist Church.

Surviving besides Mrs. Weston are his widow, the former Miss Sudie Peed of Pamlico who is now making her home with her daughter here; a daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Brincefield of Miami, and four grandchildren.

The funeral services was conducted in the Aurora Methodist Church yesterday afternon at 2:00 o'clock by the Rev. R. F. Moore, pastor. Interment was in Whitehall Cemetery near Aurora.

ROUND-UP

Activities on the crime front in this area took a serious turn last week-end when seven persons were arrested and jailed, including one charged with murder.

Four others were charged with public drunkenness, and one each with drunken driving and issuing a worthless

check. Three of the seven were white, and the ages of the group ranged from 20 to 52

Ironing Out Problems In Leaders Declare First Political Contest In The Jesse W. Martin County Drainage Project Future Is Bright

tered around the proposed No. 3 Company and the North Carolina Martin County Drainage project Pulp Company were said to have are rapidly being ironed out in most cases, but some stubborn op- ed that they will carry their apposition is being offered in some peals to the superior court. quarters, according to information gained during and following a and some of the misunder-standpublic hearing held before the ings were explained away at the superior court clerk in the court- meeting, it was said. house last Thursday afternoon.

that every effort would be made the courts. to adjust classifications in ac- The drainage project, the larg However, representatives of the Swamp area.

Problems and differences cen- Atlantic Coast Line Railroad voiced strong opposition to the drainage project and it is expect-The hearing was well attended

If appeals are perfected as they

Property owners, presenting are expected to be, it is not

cordance with the facts and it is est of its kind so far proposed in believed that no appeal would be this section, is centered in the Romade to the courts by individuals. bersonville-Parmele and Flat

Three teams from Martin County are reported entering the State Class A basketball playoffs from Martin County next month. They are Williamston, Robersonville and Bear Grass.

By entering the play-offs, Robersonville is forfeiting its chance at the Coastal Conference Championship since it cannot enter the conference tournament and the playoffs. The Rams were regarded as prohibitive favorites to win the Coastal Championship if they had elected to play it

Day of Prayer Proclamation

of tension and uncertainty in the Music Clubs, has presented over world today, and it is recognized two hundred performances of that the many problems confronting us can be solved only with the

Whereas, February 20, the First immediately left his home in Vir- Friday of the Lenten season has preciation courses in the public It was learned that Hodges had four countries;

Now Therefore, I Robert Cowen, Mayor of the City of Williamston do hereby proclaim March 5. our heads in reverent acknowledgement of our dependence and reliance upon Almighty God. and I urge everyone to pause in their God give us that hope that is in courage to support us, and love to unite us. Robert Cowen, Mayor.

United Nations Before P.-T. A

Under the direction of Miss Maude Thomas a group of students of the high school depart-United Nations before the February meeting of the Williamston Parents-Teachers Association in Robert Bird is Director of the the high school auditorium last group. evening and received many compliments for an interesting and informative program.

The theme for the meeting was "International Relations" and the United Nations skit helped to emphasize the power, the problems and the great need for this organi- Advanced on a town-wide scale,

of Mrs. Daniel Manning for hav- portunities seen in many years. ing the largest number of parents | Special advertisements in this to the local job as a special projand friends present at the meet- paper today are just a sample of ect of the Lumberton Lions Club,

Will Remove Wreaths

Keeper Oscar Harrison today Woolard plants from the plots to do so by Davis Pharmacy, Harrison Shop-Friday of this week.

up the wreaths and flower pots. ers Furniture Co.

ENTERING PLAY-OFFS Special Program Here March 3rd

Grass Roots Opera, the North Carolina institution that has developed an international reputation, is to return to Williamston on March 3 in 2 performances of Carmen, it was announced by Asa Crawford of the sponsoring organization, the Music Depart ment and the Williamston P. T. A. This unique traveling group, formed in 1948 by A. J. Fletcher Raleigh attorney and business man to give aspiring singers an opportunity to perfect their art before the footlights and give the public a chance to her opera in English, was last heard here in the opera Don Pasquale.

Grass Roots Opera, which is administered by the Extension Division of the University of North Carolina in cooperation with the Whereas, there are conditions North Carolina Federation of opera in this state since the first performance during the 1949-50 season. All performances are sung in English. A plan to integrate the opera movement in the music ap-

1954 as a Day Of Prayer, for a sands of adults have seen their derstand. In addition, many thou- them. work for one minute, to ask that future audiences for opera by business near that city. Christ Jesus, light to guide us, makes sense to the average citi- will be wed on February 14, Val- the big Christmas gift by court-

The roster of singers for the the nation's finer younger voices. The young artists come from Inand Missouri in addition to North Carolina. The Tar Heel singers Raleigh.

Mrs. Aileen Lynn, well known tive of Tennessee, Mrs. Lynn is the wife of J. T. Lynn of the fa-

Greater Bargain Days Scheduled

zation in international relations. greater bargain days in Williams- association's program gave Ruby The door prize was won by Miss ton on Thursday, Friday and the necessary training for her job, Vivian Lucas, the seat prize by Saturday of this week and on one that few qualify for, even Mrs. Henry Griffin and the at- Monday of next week will offer with the special training. At pretendance banner went to the room thirfty shoppers the biggest op- sent there is no one in training

the greater bargain days.

Participating in the great trade event are, Leder Brothers, Belk-In Woodlawn Cemetery Tyler's, Bulluck's, B. S. Courtney and Son, Worrell Appliance Co., Hardware, Peele's asked Woodlawn Cemetery lot Jewelers, Teen-Age and Misses owners who have not removed Shop, Proctor Shoppe, Muse wreaths and other Christmas Jewelry Co., Corey Plumbing Co., pe, Ann's Specialty Shop, Woolard occasion to visit the courthouse Ruby left, Jenny Suggs, who is Miss Warren, majoring in gram-torium. It is possible that some of the Furniture Co., Margolis Brothers, found it pleasant not only to trade handicapped by injuries in a high- mar grade education, is to be graowners will want to save the Lullaby Shop, Hopkins' Shoe with Ruby, but to visit with her. way accident two years ago, took duated from East Carolina Col- in some other communities is to wreaths and flower pots, Mr. Har- Store, Lindsley Checkerboard When W. J. Strickland, the blind over the temporary operation of lege, Greenville, on Saturday of be presented and suggestions outrison explaining that he did not Store, Williamston Furniture Co., want to remove anything until House of Fashion, Darden's De-

zen Had Been In Declining Health Some Time

Steering clear of political issues and locking at the over-all picture, recognized national farm leaders declared at the second annual farm press meeting in Raleigh last week-end that the fupointed out that farmers and others in the main farming sections must wake up.

newspaper and radio people last Friday evening at a dinner meeting, Paul Sanders, able editor of the Southern Planter, Richmond, was against over-industrialization of farm areas, explaining that too much industry could create more problems than it would solve. Balance is needed, he ex-

heritage-the American home. Editor Anderson proudly cited agriculture's role in the American story, and he sees a bright future for those who remain on the farms.

During the two-day institute, able leaders pointed out that science was far ahead of the average farmer, that production is far below its potential. It was explained that after a number of years hardly half the farmers are planting hybrid corn, that peanut production is still far below its maximum. The farmers who need to know the basic facts-facts

Prominent Jamesville Citi-

their grievances, were assured known when the case will reach ture for agriculture is bright. a shot gun, Roberson fired part There were timely warnings, of of a load of shot into House's course, and the leaders frankly right knee. Following treatment Speaking to the sixty or more

plained, but too much industry

can rob this nation of its greatest

(Continued on Page Eight) New Bern, and Greenville.

For Agriculture County Developed This Week

Negro Victim Of Shot Gun Attack

William David House, young colored man, was shot and badly wounded by LeRoy Roberson, also colored, about 12:30 o'clock Monday morning at Gold Point. Using in the Ward Clinic, House was re moved to a Greenville hospital. The victim is expected to live, but it is certain that he will have a stiff knee

House, a tenant on Hassell Worsley's farm in Pitt County was visiting in the Gold Point section that night. Details leading up to the attack could not be learned immediately

Roberson surrendered in the company of his landlord, Dallas Keel, to officers Monday noon. At liberty under a \$300 bond, he is scheduled to go on trial in the county court March 8.

Local Boy In Line For Scholarship At Duke

One of five chosen from a group of twenty-five at Wilmington short time ago, Wilbur Stewart local boy, will compete for an Angier B. Duke scholarship in the finals to be held in Durham on March 19, according to information released by Duke University

Young Stewart will compete with representatives, one each from Elizabeth City, Wilmington,

Queen for A Day

By Hadley Williamson In The Robesonian

ago with the result that around erton a few days ago, a heavy got away from her friends. of prayer in one hundred and 50,000 students have had an op- gloom fell over her friends in Ro- When Ruby opened her stand bersonville, and Tom Bland of A. Corry Jamesville man, an-

> only movement that I know of Jim Manning of Williamston, al- enough. which has set about creating large so a blind merchant operating a

entine Day.

1953-54 season includes some of her home in Morganton all set to dual gifts came her way. take over the operation of the The girls took over and there she conducted the business.

Raleigh pianist, will again head times the difficulty of a blind as various brands of tobacco, cigars, and even distinguishing gram. brands of cigaretts. Making change was a cinch, just by touch. And Ruby made it seem even eas-

Ruby is one of the reasons the N. C. State Association for the Blind is so proud of its work. The who could replace her. She came the bargains being offered during which specializes in aiding the

> then she not only has done a con. and occasionally got a little time stantly improving job, but also to cut a letter to Jim. has made many friends and has Blonde Ruby Pritchard probabment from the courthouse.

tomers continued to come but loved it.

learned Ruby was leaving. Ruby Lumberton, February 10 .- stand and her lip quivered but schools was introduced two years When Ruby Pritchard left Lumb- she held back the tears until she

one Corr, the morning, a Newport News, Va.; four daugh- nounced his candidicy last week form of art performed in a langu- her the best wishes of those was just a routine day until someters, Mrs. Joe Beach of Everetts, to succeed himself in that posiage and manner they could un- friends, and she had thousands of one noticed the diamond she was Mrs. Harry H. Doughlas of Elization. wearing. The word spread like beth City, Mrs. Henry O. Hud- Raymond Rawls, former deputy You see, Ruby is the blind girl wildfire and congratulations son of Newport News, and Mrs. sheriff, announced his candidacy better world for all people to rebetter world for all people to refirst opera at a Grass Roots perwho operated the concession swamped her. The incident causfor sheriff last week. Although it
Branch church Sunday afternoon. member the needs of our nation, formance. Vernon Hammond, Distand in the county courthouse ed as much excitement as if the ville; 13 grandchildren; two half- is certain that Sheriff M. W. Holrector of the Academy of Vocal lobby for almost three years. sheriff had turned up drunk. Rubrothers, Haywood Whitaker of loman will be a candidate to suc-Arts in Philadelphia recently When she left, it was for even by didn't announce it, she just Williamston; two half-sisters, ceed himself, he has not formally stated, "Grass Roots Opera is the more happiness as the bride of let them find out. That was Mrs. John H. Manning of Rober- announced his candidacy. An an-

That started a round of activi- Charlotte. ties that never ended until Ruby presenting opera in a way that Fittingly enough, the couple actually left Lumberton. First was house personnel. It was \$101 in Ruby came to Lumberton from one-dollar bills. But many indivi-

concession stand. She was one was all kinds of entertainment. No one was injured and proper-level. diana, Ohio, Virginia, Texas, Iowa who, although handicapped by Two such events were particular- ty damage was estimated at less everyone with the way in which er at which she was literally on county highways during the are from Weldon, Greenville and handicap in stride and amazed showered with useful gifts for her past few days.

ment presented a session of the the staff of accompanists. A na- person handling the many small by the courthouse personnel, who Wednesday morning, Willie Stilitems on a candy, gum and crack- did it up in grand style, even to ley of 625 Hamilton Street, skider stand with unfaltering cer- playing the well-known theme ded his 1950 Mercury into a parktainty. Or to find the other items song of Jack Bailey, the Mutual ed GMC truck-trailer. The truck ordered without difficulty, such Broadcasting system emcee who was driven there by Ennis C. Ray

functions. Her good will carried Driving in West End on Highto almost everyone she encounter- way 64 about 9:30 o'clock Sunday of crops. ed regularly, and scores of friends night, Miss Mary Louise Camp were know just by their voices, of RFD 5, Charlotte, applied the Any day, it was not unusual for brakes on her 1959 Studebaker

John? Hey Dixie. Good morn- car was negligible, the investigating, Imogene." And so on through ing officer said. the many customers, officials, news reporters, etc.

ing place except when business was rushing, but she almost con-That was in April, 1951. Since stantly chatted with some visitor,

the hearts of the organization to occupy the courthouse, but erson Cowen as teacher of the which runs the county govern- the affection of the courthouse fifth grade in the local schools, recreation for these youngsters Customers of all races who had that scale alone. A few days after fective as of March 4. association's business service re- the stand. The same hearts that this week. presentative, came by to help Ru- pulsed for Ruby rushed to make She plans to make her home port on the response to recent the owners have a chance to pick parts.ent Store and Heilig-Mey- by make her final inventory, cus- Jenny Welcome, too. And Jenny, here in West End with her bro- volunteer programs and activities up the wreaths and flower pots. ers Furniture Co.

NEW ORDINANCE

A new town ordinance, providing for town zoning, was adopted by the local board of commissioners in special session with the zoning commission last Thursday afternoon.

The zoning commission's recommendations, accepted with only a few minor changes, are to go into effect on March 20, 1954. All members of the board were present along with Messrs. W. B. Gaylord, John Hatton Gurganus and G. P. Hall of the zoning commission.

The town officials are expected to name an adjustment board at their next meeting to hear complaints, a representative of the board explaining that adjustments in the zoning regulations are possible following public hearings.

Funeral Monday

ed Monday afternoon at 3:00 o'- bon made no official announceclock in the home of a daughter, Mrs. Herman Manning, near Robersonville for C. C. (Lum) Bland C. D. Carstarphen, chairman of for the guidance of others. who died there last Saturday af- the Martin County Board of Electernoon at 1:00 o'clock. The Rev. P. E. Cayton conducted the service. Interment was in the Ro- during his first and current terms this county over a long period of

ounty 76 years ago, and was married in 1904 to Crosha Mae Man- all. ning who died ten years ago. He had farmed all his life and was a actually developed as of the pre- tie Modlin of Plymouth, Mrs. member of the Hamilton Church sent, it was reliably reported durof Christ. He had made his home stood in a little corner of the in Cross Roads Township for the rett, young Hamilton business and Mrs. Sudie Modlin of James-

sonville and Mrs. Connie Stalls of nouncement is expected in the

Minor Accidents On County Roads

blindness since infancy, took the ly outstanding. First was a show- than \$400 in two minor accidents by Mr. Roebuck Monday, the on-

Traveling toward Jamesville It has been pointed out many Then came the climax. Ruby on Highway 65 just outside of the was crowned "Queen for a Day" Williamston town limits early last conducts that nationwide pro- of 3009 Hoover Street, Durham. Damage to the car was estimat-During her residence in Lum- ed at \$300 and that to the trailer berton, she was constantly a guest at \$35. Stilley had just got his t various private and public car the day before, it was stated.

her to respond to a greeting with: and the machine skidded into a "Hello, Sheriff. How are you, left roadside ditch. Damage to the

Ruby's stand was not a gather- Miss Warren New Faculty Member

Miss Betty Jean Warren of RFD 2. Robersonville, has been done a thorough job of winning ly is the most loved person ever elected to succeed Mrs. Sue Hendcrowd is not to be measured on Mrs. Cowen's resignation is ef- are scheduled to meet tonight at

Herbert Roebuck Files Candidacy For Commissioner

Frank Everett of Hamilton **Considering Race For** The Legislature

Martin County politics took on few days when one contest was officially created and others were unofficially lined up for the May 29 primary. Still others were said possibility that there will be more contests on the county and township fronts this year than at any other time in recent years. Several candidates have an-

nounced and filed during the past contest developed Monday when Herbert L. Roebuck of Cross Martin County Board of Commissioners from the Cross Roads-Robersonville district. W. L. Aushis candidacy Monday morning shortly after 11:00 o'clock with and his deeds served as a beacon tions, Mr. Roebuck said that while. he was named for the Cross Roads -Robersonville district, he had endeavored to serve all the peo-Mr. Bland was born in this ple of the county, promoting the

While no other contests have man, was planning to enter the ville; nineteen grandchildren and Surviving are three sons, Paul race for Martin County represenand Charlie C. Bland, Jr., of Ro- tative in the State Legislature. sister, Mrs. W. B. Gaylord, Sr.,

next ten days or two weeks.

fast the latter part of last week. indicating there would be contests for just about every office in the county with the possibility that the competition would be

(Continued on Page Eight)

Agronomist Will Address Meeting

Sponsored by the Mathieson berson is now undergoing treat-Chemical Corporation, a meet-ment, a late report stating that ing will be held in the courthouse while he is not paralyzed he'll here tonight at 7:30 o'clock to be confined for several months. famaliarize fertilizer dealers and farmers with the value of anhy- Reading Clinic Is drous ammonia in the production

Dr. J. D. Campbell, Mathieson this evening.

A demonstration is being held at the Robert Pierce or Sherrod farm near Hamilton this afternoon. A large number of farmers and fertilizer dealers from all over Carolina are attending the demonstration.

Parents Of Teen-Agers To Meet Here Tonight

The parents of teen age children in and around Williamston and others interested in a program of 8:30 in the High School audi-

A report on what is being done lined for a program here. A reis also expected.

Died In Hospital **Early Saturday**

Victim Had Joined Burial Society Few Hours Before His Death

Jesse Wheeler Martin, prominent Jamseville citizen, died in a Williamston hospital at 1:00 o'clock last Saturday morning. He had been in declining health for several years, but his condition had improved recently and he was thought to be getting along added interest during the past very well until early last week. A heart condition became aggravated and he entered the hospi-

tal Wednesday for treatment. The son of the late George and Susan Whitley Martin, he was to be in the background with the born in Jamesville Township 75 years ago on April 29, 1878, and lived and farmed there all his life. He was married in 1901 to Miss Lula Gardner who died in

two weeks, but the first official Baptist Church for many years, A member of the Cedar Branch he played a prominent role in its support and was recently named Roads filed his candidacy to suc- an honorary deacon of life tenure. ceed himself as a member of the Mr. Martin, leading a simple life, exemplified the true Southern gentleman, always adhering closely to religious tenements and bon, also of Cross Roads, filed for playing the role of a valuable commissioner from the district on friend. His was a stable life, spent Funeral services were conduct- the 13th of this month. Mr. Aus- in the interest of his family, his friends and his county and counment about his candidacy. Filing try. His walk through life exemplified the finer and nobler things

He was the last brother in a family of several who figured prominently in the business af-

Surviving are two sons, Celon general welfare and interest of Martin of the home and Wheeler Martin of Spartenburg, South Ca-Gur anus; both of Williamston,

> The funeral service, conducted by his pastor, the Rev. W. B. Harrington, assisted by the Rev. N. P. Interment was in the family cemetery near the old home in Jamesville Township.

Rumors were flying thick and Suffers Broken Back In A Fall

Arnold Roberson, Griffins Township farmer, suffered a broextended down to the township ken back in a fall in the home of Mrs. Tom Roberson in Farm Life shortly before noon yesterday. He was painting the inside of the home when he fell from a ladder and landed on the stairs. Alone in the house at the time. he got up and made his way to the front porch, gasping for

breath. Removed immediately Brown's Hospital here, Mr. Ro-

Conducted In County

Dr. Keith B. Holmes of the East agronomist, will be the speaker Carolina College faculty conducted a special reading clinic here yesterday afternoon. A similar clinic was conducted last week and with one exception all schools in the county were well repre-

CONCERT

The Mauney Twins, duo pianists of renown, will appear in the second of the Martin County Community Concert series in the Williamston High School auditorium on Thursday evening of this

week at 8:30 o'clock. Natives of western North Carolina, the twins have been widely acclaimed, and many visitors from other community concert associations are expected to attend the con-